

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9222

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR NL CZ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER TO HOLLAND

REF: THE HAGUE 5991

1. FIRST SECRETARY THE DUTCH EMBASSY

TOLD US HE WAS STRUCK IN PARTICULAR BY TWO ASPECTS OF FOREIGN
MINISTER CHNOUPEK'S VISIT TO HOLLAND. FIRST HE THOUGH IT

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UNUSUAL THAT A FOREIGN MINISTER, OR AT LEAST A CZECHOSLOVAK

FOREIGN MINISTER, WAS GIVEN AN AUDIENCE WITH THE QUEEN. SECOND HE WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT THE WARM TONE OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, AND, IN PARTICULAR WITH THE USE OF THE TERM "FRIENDLY" TO DESCRIBE THE TALKS. HE SAID THAT THIS TERM HAD NOT APPEARED IN THE DUTCH DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR COMMUNIQUE, BUT HAD BEEN INSERTED AT REQUEST OF CZECHS.

2. THE ADDED THAT CHNOUPEK, WITHOUT ELABORATION, REITERATED FOR DTUCH THE THEME EXPRESSED IN HIS NOVEMBER 11TH SPEECH THAT FOREIGN BUSINESSES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO OPEN OFFICES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HOWEVER, THE SAID THAT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A DUTCH JOURNALIST SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR HOLLAND, THE FOREIGN MINISTER IMPLIED THAT PERMISSION FOR REPRESENTATION WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO LARGE CORPORATIONS AND NOT GIVEN TO SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. CHNOUPEK CITED PHILLIPS AS EXAMPLE OF KIND OF DUTCH ORGANIZATIONS THAT MIGHT HAVE DIRECT REPRESENTATION IN THE CSSR.

3. COMMENT: AGAIN, AS IN RECENT VISIT TO PARIS, THE CZECHS HAVE TRIED HARD BOTH TO IMPRESS WESTERNERS AND BUILD UP IMAGE AT HOME. UNLIKE RECENT STROUGAL VISIT TO PARIS, IN WHICH SCARCELY ANY SPECIFIC MENTION WAS MADE OF BASKET THREE, CHNOUPEK PLEDGED IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE, PUBLISHED IN RUDE PRAVO, TO OBSERVE ALL HELSINKI PROVISIONS INCLUDING THOSE OF HUMANITARIAN NATURE.

4. CONCERNING LEVEL OF BUSINESS REPRESENTATION TO BE PERMITTED IN CSSR, CHNOUPEK REMARKS TO DUTCH JOURNALIST CONFORM TO WHAT CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED TO US IN PRIVATE AND TO WHAT WE UNDERSTAND IS NORM FOR BUSINESS REPRESENTATION IN OTHER EE COUNTRIES.
PERRY

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